

Comments: The World History CA Curriculum Framework

Focus period: Modern History of Iran

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After the comment section, consider adding a short bio plus references and articles on this topic.

To: Dr. Thomas Adams

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Why the new content is needed to be edited?

Dr. Mohammad Mossadegh nor his government were socialist leaning. Dr. Mossadegh was born into a princely family on June 16, 1882. Because of his family ties to the King, he was appointed to his first governmental position at the age of thirteen. The Constitutional Revolution of 1905-06, the first democratic movement of its kind in the Middle East and indeed mainland Asia, left a great impact on Dr. Mossadegh's lifelong political thinking as a staunch liberal-democratic constitutionalist. In 1913, Dr. Mossadegh completed his studies in Switzerland and became the first Iranian receiving a doctorate in law. There are absolutely no documented account of Dr. Mossadegh being a leftist or socialist minded prime-minister. Conversely, Tudeh Party, the largest leftist party in the history of Iran and perhaps Middle East opposed him vehemently. For most Iranians and Iranian-Americans, Mossadegh's memory and legacy remains a strong source of pride in their heritage and identity. Mossadegh embodies the best hopes and ideals of most Iranians as a principled, well educated, peaceful, law abiding, modern, patriotic and democratic man.

Original comments plus highlighted changes.

Page 546; lines 903-905

American foreign policy in the Middle East included CIA involvement in overthrowing the democratically elected **but socialist-leaning** [add: Mossadegh] government in Iran, and the tensions that would lead (much later) to the first and second Gulf Wars.

References:

In a recent [book review on Mossadegh](#), William Roger Louis, the distinguished historian at University of Texas (Austin) notes:

“[After the coup] At his trial, ...[Mossadegh’s] compelling personality reasserted itself. He eloquently demonstrated his commitment to democratic or constitutional practices and the rule of law.”

The Quest for Democracy in Iran: A Century of Struggle against Authoritarian Rule by Fakhreddin Azimi (Harvard University Press, 2010)

Mohammad Mossadegh: A Political Biography by Farhad Diba (Routledge Kegan & Paul, 1986)

Dr. Hamid Akbari’s Biography:

Hamid Akbari is the Dean of College of Business and Professor of Management at Winona State University in Winona, Minnesota. Prior to this position, he was the Director of Dr. Mohammad Mossadegh Leadership Fund and Executive Director of Development and Community Affairs at Northeastern Illinois University where he helped to establish the first and only University Hall in the world named after Dr. Mossadegh. From 2005-2007, he held the position of Executive Director of *International Society for Iranian Studies*, the first and largest international association of Iran scholars and university professors. He’s a co-editor of *Mossadegh and the Future of Iran*, co-author of *Iranians in Chicagoland*, and author of articles and organizer of several major academic conferences on Dr. Mossadegh. He received his Ph.D. from the Ohio State University in 1986 and his MA in political science from University of Toledo in 1982.